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experts say after pirate attack



Car salesman gets death for murder of exec

ALOR STAR — A car salesman was sentenced to death by the High Court here yesterday for the murder of a marketing executive 10 years ago.

Judicial Commissioner Datuk Mohd Zaki Abdul Wahab handed down the sentence on Shahril Jaafar, after finding that the prosecution had succeeded in establishing the case without reasonable doubts.

Shahril, 34, looked calm when Mohd Zaki handed down the sentence.

He was charged with murdering Chee Gaip Yap, 25, at the compound of Kelab Cinta Sayang, Sungai Petani, between 5.30pm on Jan 14, 2006, and 3.05am the following day.

The charge was made under Section 302 of the Penal Code, which carries the mandatory death sentence upon conviction.

Chee's semi-nude body was found on Jan 15, 2006, in Jalan Kelab Cinta Sayang. She was believed to have been raped. She had gone jogging with her younger sister when she was abducted.

Mohd Zaki said in his judgment the testimony by the father of the accused during the trial contradicted that of police investigation.

The Alor Star High Court had on June 25, 2013, acquitted Shahril of the charge, but on Oct 13 last year, following an appeal by the prosecution, the Court of Appeal overturned the acquittal and ordered Shahril to enter his defence.

Chee's father, Ah Sau, 67, said he felt relieved now that his 10-year wait for justice for his daughter was over.

He said Gaip Yap, who graduated from Universiti Utara Malaysia, was the "hope of the family". — Bernama